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being placed over the bed portion and panels to define an enclosure] to accommodate the neonatal infant; and

at least one opening being configured to have a self-acting closure located through the cover and permitting manual access into the enclosure.

- 2. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the self-acting closure comprises a manually penetrable diaphragm configured to open as an object or human hand is urged therethrough.
- (As Filed) The barrier of Claim 2, wherein the diaphragm comprises a resiliently flexible material extending across the opening and having slits therein.
- (As Filed) The barrier of Claim 3, wherein the slits extend radially outward having a common junction point located substantially centrally of the flexible opening.
- 5. (Previously Amended) The barrier of claim 1, further comprising a sheet of flexible material positioned proximate to the at least one opening and overlaps the opening to form a seal.
- 6. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the cover comprises a substantially rectangular sheet, the sheet being pivotally coupled by a flexible seam at each of its edges to flap portions, the flap portions being configured to overhang a support framework to create a substantially thermal neutral environment within said enclosure.
- 7. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the cover defines a tetrahedral enclosure.
- 8. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the cover defines a half section of a truncated right circular cylinder enclosure.
  - 9. (As Filed) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the cover comprises an optically transparent material.

(Three Times Amended) A system for providing a neutral thermal

environment comprising: [and moisture barrier for use with]

an infant radiant warmer; [including a bedding assembly and a plurality of optically transparent side panels surrounding and extending in a direction up from a mattress upon which an infant can be placed, the barrier comprising:]

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a substantially flexible cover defining an enclosed space [enclosure] when disposed over said radiant warmer: [the mattress to accommodate the infant, said cover having a flap portion which is capable of overhanging the side panels to create a substantially enclosed environment; ] and

at least one opening located through the substantially flexible cover and permitting manual access into the enclosure.

- 11. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 10, having a diaphragm providing manually penetrable closure of the at least one opening.
- 12. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 11, wherein the diaphragm comprises a resiliently flexible sheet extending across the opening and having slits extending radially outward having common junction point located substantially centrally of the flexible opening.
- 13. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 11, wherein the diaphragm comprises a superposed sheet of flexible material for covering the diaphragm when not in use.
- 14. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 10, wherein the cover defines a substantially rectangular sheet having a flexible seam at each of its edges coupled to said flap portions.
- 15. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 10, wherein the cover defines a section of a portion of a right circular cylinder enclosure.
- 16. (Previously Amended) The barrier of Claim 10, wherein the cover defines a tetrahedral enclosure.
- 17. (Three Times Amended) A thermal and moisture barrier for use with an incubator including an incubation chamber, having [and] optically transparent side walls with [having] aritholes formed thereon, [therein] surrounding a mattress upon which an infant can be placed, the barrier comprising:

a substantially flexible cover including an edge portion which contacts said mattress to define an enclosed space within said incubation chamber having a substantially neutral thermal environment [defining an enclosure when disposed over the mattress to accommodate the infant, said cover includes an edge portion, the entire edge portion

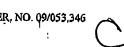
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contacting said mattress to create a seal with the mattress and provide a substantially neutral thermal and humidified environment therein]; and

a plurality of openings disposed on a portion of the cover and communicating with the enclosed space [enclosure], wherein each opening includes a [closing assembly, said closing assembly including a resiliently flexible sheet extending across the opening and having slits extending radially outward having a common junction point located substantially centrally of the flexible opening which provide] self-acting closure to preserve the neutral thermal [and humidified] environment.

Please cancel Claims 21-23.

Please add new claims 24-26 as follows:

-- 24. (New) A system for providing an environmental barrier comprising:

a specialized heating apparatus for use in the care of a neonatal infant;

a substantially flexible cover defining an enclosed space when disposed over said specialized heating apparatus which can accommodate the neonatal infant; and

at least one opening being configured to have a self-acting closure located through the substantially flexible cover to permit manual access into the enclosed space,

25. (New) A system for providing a neutral thermal environment comprising: an infant radiant warmer including a plurality of optically transparent side guards; a substantially flexible cover defining an enclosed space when placed over said plurality of optically transparent side guards; and

at least one opening located through the substantially flexible cover to permit manual access to the enclosed space.

26. (New) A system for providing a neutral thermal environment comprising: an incubator including an incubation chamber having optically transparent side walls having armholes surrounding a mattress upon which an infant can be placed;

a substantially flexible cover disposed over the mattress to define a neutral thermal microenvironment within said incubation chamber; and

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